Preliminary Alternative #4
Corresponding to Alternative Formulation Strategy 1A,2B,3A,4A - Minimum

Primary Conflict	Approach to Resolve Conflict
Fisheries and Diversions (Conflict 1)	**Increase Fish Productivity (1A)** Diversion Modification (1B)
Habitat and Land Use/Flood Protection (Conflict 2)	Preserve Existing Land Use (2A) **Create Additional Habitat Area (2B)**
Water Supply Availability and Beneficial Uses (Conflict 3)	**Reduce Critical Export Area Demands (3A)** Enhance Delta Supplies as Inflows (3B)
Water Quality and Land Use (Conflict 4)	**Managing Quality of Delta Inflow (4A)** Manage Instream/In-Delta Water Quality (4B)
Minimum or Maximum	

Solution Overview

This minimum alternative includes compatible objectives of increasing fish populations and increasing the extent of Delta aquatic and terrestrial habitat area. Action choices are not limited by the preservation of existing agricultural land uses, but are constrained in that the impacts of remaining agricultural diversions to fish populations are not proactively addressed. By constraining water quality management to the control of source discharges, this alternative precludes the management of instream water quality by treatment, dilution, and other in-water practices.

Actions Selected

Habitat - This alternative is characterized by minimal actions to improve shallow habitat area, nearshore areas, levee maintenance practices, and land-based agricultural practices (chemical applications, irrigation scheduling, tillage, etc.) that may adversely affect existing habitat.

Populations - Modifications to upstream passage obstacles and natural barriers are used to enhance fish populations.

Water Use - By seeking to reduce critical export demands, this alternative will result in additional Delta water available for beneficial uses.

Water Quality -Restricted livestock grazing, the reduction of agricultural discharges, and modification of irrigation and cropping practices could result in minimal water quality benefits.

Preliminary Assessment

This alternative's implementation would achieve minor improvements in existing Delta habitat, some increase in the extent of usable habitat, and modest increases in water quality that accompany source discharge control programs. Its weaknesses are characterized by its constraints to: reducing diversion impacts; increasing in-watershed supplies; and improving instream water quality. This alternative will not result in Delta benefits that could be obtained from supply increases that may dilute and reduce the temperature of Delta waters. Its implementation could result in some, but only negligibly measurable benefits. It is doubtful whether this alternative's implementation could fulfill federal Endangered Species Act protections for listed Delta species.

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